

I want to thank Eddie for showing us what people who are visually impaired can do, and actually each one of us can do, when given the opportunity.

TIME TO STOP THE GRAVY TRAIN TO COMMUNISTS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, news reports say China and Russia will sign a treaty opposing U.S. policy. China and Russia say, and I quote: "America is too powerful and we must stymie their missile shield."

Now, if that is not enough to spike our vodka, we give Russia billions of dollars a year in aid. China now takes at least \$10 billion a month out of the American trade surplus. Some experts say it is as high as \$20 billion a month.

Mr. Speaker, we have a trade deficit of \$40 billion a month. Think about it. It is time to stop this gravy train to these Communist pimps, so help me; half a trillion dollars a year, and they have missiles pointed at us.

I yield back the fact that America, with a half a trillion dollars in trade deficit, is an America looking at a financial disaster.

CONGRATULATING HEBREW HOMES HEALTH NETWORK, UNITED FOUNDATION FOR AIDS, AND SOUTH SHORE HOSPITAL FOR HELPING FROSENE SONDERLING CREATE THE JACKSON PLAZA CENTER

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Frosene Sonderling's wish came to fruition in my hometown of Miami when Hebrew Homes Health Network and United Foundation for AIDS opened the Jackson Plaza Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

The center is dedicated to persons battling diabetes, Alzheimer's, cancer, and Frosene's main cause, the elimination of HIV-AIDS.

In association with South Shore Hospital, the beneficiaries of the Jackson Plaza Center will now have access to direct patient care, to housing, to community service, and to education. The center is becoming a home to many in our community in helping to preserve the quality of so many lives.

Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Hebrew Homes Health Network, United Foundation for AIDS, and the South Shore Hospital for championing this cause in our South Florida community, and for making Frosene Sonderling's dream a reality.

Frosene was a former constituent of mine who worked tirelessly to raise

funds for AIDS research. She was a noted contributor to organizations that help people infected with HIV, and she harbored her selfless passion to help this infirm population. Her donations benefited medical research for AIDS treatment; and before her death, Frosene shared a dream of a state-of-the-art facility. We are now very proud that it is in our midst.

THE BUSH TAX CUT IS TOO BIG

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is becoming very clear that whether one is old or young, the Bush tax cut is too big and will not allow us to meet the priorities of this Nation.

For those parents who want a decent education, a first-class education for their children, who want quality teachers in every classroom, who want modern schools, who want to make sure that in fact we can reduce class sizes because we now know that children learn better in smaller classes, the Bush tax cut is crowding that out.

For the elderly, the Washington Post points out today that the Bush tax cut is a raid on the Medicare trust fund, that Medicare is being raided for the purposes of paying for the tax cut. So both the young, who we seek to provide educational reforms for and a quality program, and the elderly, who we seek prescription drug benefits for, who seek to have their health care coverage taken care of, those funds are now being raided to pay for the Bush tax cut.

We should not allow it. We should understand the priorities of this Nation; and the priorities of this Nation are that people want Social Security and Medicare protected, and they want a first-class education system for America's children.

We cannot have that if we have the Bush tax cut.

AMERICA MUST BE ON GUARD AGAINST RUSSIA AND ROGUE NATIONS

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the President of Russia recently concluded an agreement with the Ayatollah of Iran. Russia has been helping Iran in the development of a nuclear power plant, and that cooperation will continue.

It is curious why a nation such as Iran, a major petroleum producer, would need nuclear power. I fear that the answer is found elsewhere. This agreement with Russia is also a major

arms pact. Iran is seeking advanced military equipment from the Russian government.

Global stability depends on isolating rogue nations, such as Iran, North Korea, Libya, and Syria. The Russians are providing arms and technical assistance to a terrorist state which intends to expand its reach throughout that vital region.

The recent espionage case involving a top FBI official underscores the fact that Russia's intentions towards the United States are not benign. We still live in a dangerous world and the Russian government is making that world less secure. We must be on our guard.

BROKEN PROMISES BY PRESIDENT BUSH

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, that wrenching sound we heard from Pennsylvania Avenue yesterday was President George Bush breaking a promise to the American people. Last September President Bush promised the American people he would work to reduce carbon dioxide pollution from generating plants. Yesterday he broke that pledge.

Despite the fact that since last September the evidence has accumulated rapidly, the global climate change is occurring due to carbon dioxide pollution. Even though that evidence has increased, unfortunately, so has the administration's willingness to follow the dictates of the oil and gas industry.

For a President who said that the reason he did this is that he is worried about an energy crisis, we find that laughable in the West, because for the last 2 months we have been asking the President of the United States to do something about energy prices, to impose a short-term wholesale price cap, and he has refused to even consider it.

We are going to urge him to reconsider that, because I can promise the Members this, this President broke his promise. It has not broken our spirit to bring Americans clean energy at a reasonable price.

THE QUALITY CHEESE ACT OF 2001

(Ms. BALDWIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce the bipartisan Quality Cheese Act of 2001, a bill that will prohibit the use of dry ultra-filtered milk, of casein, and milk-protein concentrates in the making of standardized cheese.

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The plight of our Nation's dairy farmers continues to worsen. In Wisconsin alone, dairy farmers lost \$500

million last year because prices reached a 20-year low. My dairy farmers simply cannot stay in business with prices at these levels.

Dry ultra-filtered milk and its derivatives such as milk protein concentrates, MPCs, are allowed into our country basically duty free. In many countries, the costs of its production is subsidized, placing our dairy producers at a competitive disadvantage.

I do not want a cheap, subsidized import to take the place of our dairy farmers' wholesome milk in cheese vats in this country.

Please join me in supporting the Quality Cheese Act of 2001.

BUSH BREAKS PROMISE ON CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, President Bush has broken his promise. During his campaign and even until last week, President Bush had committed to reducing carbon dioxide emissions from power plants.

In a speech last September in Michigan, the President said, and I quote, "We will require all power plants to meet clean air standards in order to reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, mercury and carbon dioxide."

He made this promise to the American people to protect the health of our children and the environment and to protect them from the effects of climate change. Yet now he has given in to the oil and gas industries who were his biggest contributors.

The scientific community has concluded that climate change, global warming is real and serious. Mr. Speaker, I will soon reintroduce legislation to require oil and coal-fired power plants to clean up their emissions, including carbon dioxide.

In America today, dirty power is cheap power, and we need to act this year to pass my legislation to clean up these emissions, to clean up these old power plants and to get control of climate change carbon dioxide, which is threatening this country.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

MADE IN AMERICA INFORMATION ACT

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 725) to establish a toll free number under the Federal Trade Commission to assist consumers in determining if products are American-made, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 725

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Made in America Information Act".

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—If the Secretary of Commerce determines, on the basis of comments submitted in the rulemaking under section 3, that—

(1) interest among manufacturers is sufficient to warrant the establishment of a 3-year toll-free telephone number pilot program; and

(2) manufacturers will provide fees under section 3(c) so that the program will operate without cost to the Federal Government; the Secretary shall establish such program solely to help inform consumers whether a product is "Made in America". The Secretary shall publish the toll-free telephone number by notice in the Federal Register.

(b) CONTRACT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall enter into a contract for—

(1) the establishment and operation of the toll-free telephone number pilot program provided for in subsection (a); and

(2) the registration of products pursuant to regulations issued under section 3; which shall be funded entirely from fees collected under section 3(c).

(c) USE.—The toll-free telephone number shall be used solely to inform consumers as to whether products are registered under section 3 as "Made in America". Consumers shall also be informed that registration of a product does not mean—

(1) that the product is endorsed or approved by the Government;

(2) that the Secretary has conducted any investigation to confirm that the product is a product which meets the definition of "Made in America" in section 5; or

(3) that the product contains 100 percent United States content.

SEC. 3. REGISTRATION.

(a) PROPOSED REGULATION.—The Secretary of Commerce shall propose a regulation—

(1) to establish a procedure under which the manufacturer of a product may voluntarily register such product as complying with the definition of "Made in America" in section 5 and have such product included in the information available through the toll-free telephone number established under section 2(a);

(2) to establish, assess, and collect a fee to cover all the costs (including start-up costs) of registering products and including registered products in information provided under the toll-free telephone number;

(3) for the establishment under section 2(a) of the toll-free telephone number pilot program; and

(4) to solicit views from the private sector concerning the level of interest of manufacturers in registering products under the terms and conditions of paragraph (1).

(b) PROMULGATION.—If the Secretary determines based on the comments on the regulation proposed under subsection (a) that the toll-free telephone number pilot program and the registration of products is warranted, the Secretary shall promulgate such regulation.

(c) REGISTRATION FEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Manufacturers of products included in information provided under section 2 shall be subject to a fee imposed by the Secretary of Commerce to pay the cost of registering products and including them in information provided under subsection (a).

(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of fees imposed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) in the case of a manufacturer, not be greater than the cost of registering the manufacturer's product and providing product information directly attributable to such manufacturer; and

(B) in the case of the total amount of fees, not be greater than the total amount appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce for salaries and expenses directly attributable to registration of manufacturers and having products included in the information provided under section 2(a).

(3) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Fees collected for a fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be credited to the appropriation account for salaries and expenses of the Secretary of Commerce and shall be available in accordance with appropriation Acts until expended without fiscal year limitation.

(B) COLLECTIONS AND APPROPRIATION ACTS.—The fees imposed under paragraph (1)—

(i) shall be collected in each fiscal year in an amount equal to the amount specified in appropriation Acts for such fiscal year; and

(ii) shall only be collected and available for the costs described in paragraph (2).

SEC. 4. PENALTY.

Any manufacturer of a product who knowingly registers a product under section 3 which is not "Made in America"—

(1) shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$7500 which the Secretary of Commerce may assess and collect, and

(2) shall not offer such product for purchase by the Federal Government.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) MADE IN AMERICA.—The term "Made in America" has the meaning given unqualified "Made in U.S.A." or "Made in America" claims for purposes of laws administered by the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) PRODUCT.—The term "product" means a product with a retail value of at least \$250.

SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or in any regulation promulgated under section 3 shall be construed to alter, amend, modify, or otherwise affect in any way, the Federal Trade Commission Act or the opinions, decisions, rules, or any guidance issued by the Federal Trade Commission regarding the use of unqualified "Made in U.S.A." or "Made in America" claims in labels on products introduced, delivered for introduction, sold, advertised, or offered for sale in commerce.

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to provide for the establishment of a toll-free telephone number to assist consumers in determining whether products are American-made."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) each will control 20 minutes.